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COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Open-ended
Working Group on Sectoral Issues
27 February-3 March 1995

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Integrated planning and management of land resources (Agenda 21, chapter 10).

3. Forests (Agenda 21, chapter 11 and "Forest Principles").

4. Desertification and drought (Agenda 21, chapter 12).

5. Mountains (Agenda 21, chapter 13).

6. Agriculture and rural development (Agenda 21, chapter 14).

7. Biodiversity (Agenda 21, chapter 15).

8. Other matters.

9. Adoption of the report of the Working Group.

Annotations

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

At its second session, the Commission on Sustainable Development decided to prepare for the discussion at its third session through the establishment of an inter-sessional, ad hoc, open-ended working group, with a one-year mandate, composed of Governments, which would nominate experts to assist the Commission

in the preparation, in a coordinated and integrated way, of the examination of the sectoral issues to be reviewed by the Commission at its third session, in accordance with the multi-year thematic programme of work of the Commission - namely, the sectoral cluster entitled "Land, desertification, forests and biodiversity". The mandate of the working group would be:

(a) To review chapters 10 to 15 of Agenda 21 and the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, taking account, as appropriate, of inputs from other forums, such as the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, inasmuch as such inputs have a bearing on the work of the Commission;

(b) To take stock of inter-sessional activity organized by Governments or international organizations on sectoral issues under review at the Commission's third session;

(c) To group together initiatives under way on a particular sectoral issue;

(d) To convey the results of relevant inter-sessional work to the Commission;

(e) To make recommendations on the organization of the Commission's discussions of sectoral issues in the light of inter-sessional activity.

In addition, the Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Sectoral Issues would consider technology transfer issues in relation to the specific sectoral issues under review in 1995, including the experience of individual countries.

Items 2 to 7

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on an integrated approach to the planning and management of land resources (E/CN.17/1995/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on combating deforestation and on the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests (E/CN.17/1995/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought (E/CN.17/1995/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on managing fragile ecosystems: sustainable mountain development (E/CN.17/1995/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development (E/CN.17/1995/6)

Report of the Secretary-General on conservation of biological diversity (E/CN.17/1995/7)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the statement of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (E/CN.17/1995/27)

Item 8. Other matters

Item 9. Adoption of the report of the Working Group